



EXPRESS MAILING LABEL
NO. EV371747338US

PATENTS
593/005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Applicants : Thomas E. Borillo et al.
Application No. : 09/960,749 Confirmation No. 5029
Filed : September 21, 2001
For : APPARATUS FOR IMPLANTING DEVICES
IN ATRIAL APPENDAGES
Group Art Unit : 3731
Examiner : Jessica R. Baxter

New York, New York
August 13, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97,
applicants hereby make the following patent documents of
record in the above-identified patent application:

Van Tassel et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,551,303 B1
(April 22, 2003)

Van Tassel et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,652,555 B1
(November 25, 2003)

Van Tassel et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,652,556 B1
(November 25, 2003)

Van Tassel et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,689,150 B1
(February 10, 2004)

Borillo et al. U.S. Patent Application
Publication No. 2002/0022860 A1 (February 21, 2002)

08/17/2004 HMARZ11 00000035 09960749

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Copies of the aforementioned patent documents, which are listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (submitted in duplicate), are enclosed herewith.

Applications from which the aforementioned patents issued, and upon which the aforementioned application publication is based, were cited in the specification of the instant application. International counterparts of aforementioned U.S. Patent No. 6,551,303 (viz., international applications published as International Publications Nos. WO 0130268 A and WO 0130267 A) were cited in an International Search Report issued in connection with an international counterpart of the instant application. A copy of the International Search Report is enclosed. (Applicants note that the International Search Report cites other documents that previously have been cited by applicants in the instant application.)

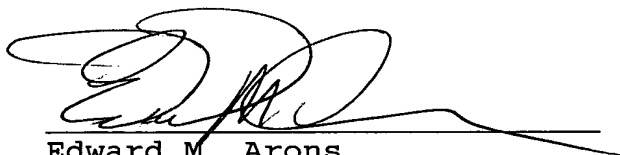
It is respectfully requested that the aforementioned patents be (1) fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during examination of this application; and (2) printed on any patent which may issue on this application. Applicants request that a copy of Form PTO-1449, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned with the next communication.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(c)(2) and 1.17(p), a check for \$180.00 is enclosed. The Director

is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees required in connection with this Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being transmitted herewith.

A favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Edward M. Arons', is written over a horizontal line.

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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
593/005APPLICATION NO.
09/960,749INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANTAPPLICANT
Thomas E. Borillo et al.CONFIRMATION NO.
5029FILING DATE
September 21, 2001GROUP ART UNIT
3731

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,551,303 B1	04/2003	Van Tassel et al.	604	508	October 27, 1999
	6,652,555 B1	11/2003	Van Tassel et al.	606	200	August 18, 2000
	6,652,556 B1	11/2003	Van Tassel et al.	606	200	October 26, 2000
	6,689,150 B1	02/2004	Van Tassel et al.	606	200	July 11, 2000

U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	2002/0022860 A1	02/2002	Borillo et al.	606	200	August 17, 2001

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER INITIAL	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.